## Clever Farce Comedy, A Fair Comic Opera, And a Mediocre Drama

Columbia Attraction the Best of the Week at the Three Leading Theaters—Offerings at Other Houses.

Two semi-disappointments and an indorsement of approval won in other cities is Washington's verdict on the attractions at the three big theaters this week. At the other four houses the entertainments offered prove uniformly satisfactory,

Hilda Spong and William F. Hawtrey redeem a commonplace play at the Belasco, and the star fulfills the expectations of Washington's critics who last year declared her entirely worthy of a position in stellar ranks,

John Slavin is the life of the comic opera at the National. Katle Barry has been given a part that offers her poor opportunity to exploit her cleverness and versatility.

Raymond Hitchcock proves to Washington at the Columbia that he can do setter in comedy than he did in comic opera. He keeps the house in an uproar when he is on the stage and the farce suffers whenever he leaves the boards. The entertainment is altogether worth while and should prove a Washington

### HILDA SPONG SURPASSES PLAY THAT STARS HER

When Miss Hilda Spong appeared in Washington last season supporting William H. Crane, she shared honors with the star by her artistic impersonation of the Irish widow in "The American Lord," It was then freely predicted that this season would see her at the head of her own company, and this thought, which was father to the wish, was borne out last night when she ap-peared at the Belasco Theater as Honor

Beauchamp in "John Hudson's Wife." Miss Spong did not disappoint her old by her convincing delineation and sym of an inebriate father and a degenerate fare and freedom for the sake of her

Jean Libbey fiction type, and it must be said that the success of last night's production is not to be credited to the playwrights. Alicia Ramsey and Rudolph De Cordova, for Miss Spong's starring vehicle is decidedly commonplace, though not altogether crude. As the wife of John Hudson, a radical member of the House of Commons, M.Z. Spong is given ample opportunity for the display of the finer sensibilities and sentiments of womanhood and wifehood. There are several dramatic situations, but with excellent judgment she so tempers them that the audience forgets that there is a stage and a pit. The hypercritical might almost say that Miss Spong's repression is too marked and perhaps lacking in the higher lights of the stage picture, but when the public has been surfeited with emotional roles, where passion is torn to very tatters the sentent and is torn to very tatters the sentent and its production of a "real newspaper man, not a journalist," ably seconded Mr. Hitchcock in the comedy work of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the evening. Others in the cast, who did good work, of the centent for the cast, who did good work, of the cast, who did good Jean Libbey fiction type, and it must

Edna Bern as Mrs. John Hudson, sr, and Henry Hanscombe as John Hudson, stocharacters.

Charles Rowan, as Earl Scaton, would have left a far better impression had be borne in mind the advice given by the great olaywright. 'Speak no more than is set down,' for in spite of the play's ritieness it is hard to concelve of an author's putting such an expression as ritieness it is hard to concelve of an author's putting such an expression as prime minister of in the mount of the prime minister of in the mount of the play take care of itself.

The audience was appreciative, though not unduly enthusiastic. At the conclusion of the second act the star received a magnificent basket of flowers, the gift of the Jananese Ambassador. Steep and the Baroness Moncheur, the Secretary of State and Mrs. Root, the Turkish Minister. Chekib Bey: the first secretary of the Brazilian embassy, "Svivino do Amarai; Judges and Mrs. William H. Di Lovy, Dr. J. Wesley Bovee, and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. W. Hanger.

RAYMOND HITCHCOCK IN CLEVER FARCE COMEDY

Raymond Hitchcock, in the title role of Richard Harding Davis' three-sact farce, "The Galloper," made a crowded house at the Columbia last night laugh and applaud until some of the audieace had to reach for their handkerchiefs and spylaud until some of the audieace had to reach for their handkerchiefs and sy their eyes.

The place is the lightest of farces, and serves chiefly to keep Mr. Hitchcock on the stage. In the rare intervals of the performance, when he is allowed to go behind the scenes to get his breath, the interest lags and the laughs get seldom. But, for the most part, the star is chained to the stage. He knows this, and he works with a will, the result being as good an evening's enterstainment as one could wish to find. Those who have seen Mr. Hitchcock when he is allowed to go behind the scenes to get his breath, the interest lags and the laughs get seldom. But, for the most part, the star is chained to the stage. He knows this, and he works with a will, the result being as good an ev

## THEIR WEDDING DELAYED: UNLUCKY THIRTEEN DATE

Though License Is Issued St. Louis Couple Decide Not to Be Married for a While-Prefer to Escape Possible Hoodoo.

St LOUIS, Oct. 30.—After securing a there just for a ride," he said. "We marriage license in St. Charles, Mo., had intended to get married for some October 13, it has now become known, time, but while we were out there we

Majestic-"The Arrival of Kitty."

Popular "Eight Bells."

George O. Miller, of North Euclid ave-nue, superintendent of the directory de-partment of the St. Louis post office, and Miss Olga Hoeber, of St. Louis, dis-covered the unlucky "thirteen" as the date on the document and postponed the ceremony.

Mr. Miller was very reticent when questioned about the matter. He admitted that they had secured the license and intended to get married until they discovered the unauspicious date. He said that he and Miss Hoeber went to St. Charles for a car ride.

"It was a fine day, and we went out of the ceremony. On account of the unlucky date, they decided to wait until a flat, which Mr. Miller is preparing, is finished and ready for occupancy.

tle sketch entitled "Minnie from Minne-sota." The Josselin Trio, tapezists, Eciphino and Delmora, noveity musi-cians; Saoba's exhibition of living pic-tures from the Hall of Fame, and George W. Day, in a witty monologue. MANSFIELD TRIUMPHS IN

The only trouble with "The Arrival of

The play is a farce, built on mistaken identity lines, and the first act is distinctly tedious. During the second act Kitty arrives—first the false and then the true Kitty—and the fun begins, and continues fast and furious to the end. Hal Johnson, as the false Kitty, does a female impersonation act that brings down the house. Its feminity is, of course, exaggerated, but is very clever notwithstanding. Miss Eveline Dunnotwithstanding. Miss Eveline Dunnotwithstanding. Miss Eveline Dunnotwithstanding is printed in big type on the program, does not arrive on the scene until toward the end of ahe second act. When the does arrive, she is satisfactory, being decidedly pretty and blest with the best voice in the company. Edwin Felix is funny as a retired attorney in search of a wife, and Mark Lane plays Colonel Bell, with an eye to business, well. The rest of the cast is fairly satisfactory. The songs did not rouse any particular enthusiasm, the nearest approach to a hit being, "Will You?" sung by Minnie Brandcome, as Susette,

Triumphant manner by Mr. Mansfield, who has in his notable and ambitious career given the stage nothing more splendid to the eye or diverting to the imagination, though the panoramic beauties of "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "King Henry V" prepared the way.

There were fourteen missive sets of scenery, and the sunrise and sunset and moonlight effects on the Norwegian moonlight effects on the Norwegian the warmth of palm groves on the Mediterrancan, an oasis in the desert, a Norwegian wedding festival, fairyland scenes of fantastic charm, and the submerging in a storm at sea of a wrecked vessel occupying the entire stage, were the notable pictorial triumphant manner by Mr. As and ambitious career given the stage nothing more splendid to the eye or diverting to the limagination, though the panoramic beauties of "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "King Henry V" prepared the way.

There were fourteen missive sets of scenery, and the sunrise and sunset and moonlight effects on the Norwegian wedding festival, fairyl

first American production of the Swamp-Root a English musical comedy "The Belle of Mayfair," under the management of In writing Academy-The Brothers Byrne in the The Brothers Byrne, with their troupe of acrobatic comedians, pleased a large ceum Theater this evening before an

# the adventures on land and sea of the John Bryne Athletic troupe, and the adventures encountered by this wonderful aggregation vary from railroad wrecks to meeting the real, live octopus. The vehicle is a reminder of the Hanlon Brothers in Le Voyage En Suisse of a score of years ago, only it is better than that old-time favorite. The specialties introduced were good. Shock and Rice, trick bicycle riders won appliause, and Ferguson and Palsmore did some clever dances. Emma O'Neil, the California baritone, sang some ballads acceptably. Alfogether the ply is one of the best that has been put on at this popular house this season.

Lyceum-Two Washingtonians in a SOUTH BEND, Inc., totale of last G. Mayr, of Cincinnati, a bride of last summer, has wen both the divorce sult summer, has wen both the divorce sult summer, has wen both the divorce sult summer. SOUTH BEND, Ind., Oct. 30.-Helen

Robert B. Smith is credited with the beek and tyrics, while Raymond Habbell, whose personality and interpretation count for more than the role. William F. Hawtrey, the dissolute and unprincipled father, gives a characterization that is highly artistic and thoroughly amusing, while Lionel Walsh in the smaller but equally exacting role of Francis, the son, deserves the highest commendation.

The portrayal of John Hudson, ir., by Herbert Percy, is not satisfying, though not without some degree of merit. His accentuated reserve of manner smacks of theatric pose.

Edna Bern as Mrs. John Hudson, sr., and Henry Hanscombe as John Hudson, sr., were among the best of the minors of "Mile. Salile" have indeed have left a far better impression had he borned by mind the davice given by the great blaywright, "Speak no more than is set down," for in spite of the player. That she did yet through its set of the great blaywright, "Speak no more than is set down," for in spite of the player. The set of the player in the six of the spin of the player in the six of the spin of the player in the sex of the minor players true, after all?—the authors are all sympton to Miss Barry's personality to carry her through the suit for replevin of wedding presents, as the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the none time and ded interest to an attraction that is better than the ordinary. They are Vivian Hoffman, whose viviacity and winsomeness is the life of a good chorus, and Charley Higgens, in a good chorus, and Charley Higgens, in a good chorus, and Charley Higgens, in a faring Attraction.

The appearance of two Washingtonians so the beards at the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the New Lyceum this week in "The Amarican Burles, and the suit for replevin of weeking the native feeled of the suit for

## IBSEN'S "PEER GYNT"

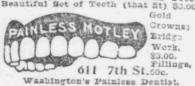
field tonight, on the stage of the Grand Opera House, acted for the first time,

of aerobatic comedians, pleased a large audience at the Academy lest night in the old-time spectacular production, despite the counter attraction of the livilest sort, replete with astonishing mechanical effects and full of funny situations. The action rests upon the adventures on land and sea of the John Bryne Athletic troupe, and the adventures encountered by this wonderful aggregation vary from railroad wreeks to meeting the readous.

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Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for many kinds of diseases, and if permitted to ontinue much suffering and many fatal results "Peer Gynt." This was the first time lbsen's comedy has eyer been given in Kitty," at the Majestic this week is that Kitty takes too long in arriving. The play is a farce, built on mistaken identity lines, and the first act is distinctly tedious. During the second act fitty arrives—first the false and then the true Kitty—and the fun begins, and continues fast and furious to the end.

The olig trouble with The Arrivis is the Arrivis at the Arrivis week is the Arrivis. Its despite this week is the false and it was accomplished in a English, and it was accomplished in a the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism the Arrivis accomplished in a the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism the night to the his his notable and ambitious career given the stage nothing more splended to the eye or diverting to the imagination, though the panoramic beauties of "Cyrano de Bergerac" and back ache, cause indigestion, storage and liver trouble, you get a sallow, yellow com picklon, make you feel as though you had hear trouble; you may have plenty of ambition, but no strength; get weak and waste away.

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this, and he works with a will, the result being as good an evening's entertainment as one could wish to find.

Those who have seen Mr. Hitchcock in comic opera were disposed to think he could not possibly be as funny in farce as he had been in musical extravaganzas. But they soon discovered their mistake. Taking it, all in ali, Mr. Hitchcock has more opportunity to amuse in "The Galloper" than he has had in any comic opera.

The dazzling, spectacular, electrical ballet, "Starlight," which is the headliner this week at Chase's, is all that it was precaused and by far the most beautiful and interesting exhibition of the kind ever seen in Washington.

The ballet is performed by thirty young women, whose skirts and head-

in "The Galloper" than he has had in any comic opera.

In the piece Mr. Davis touches on the Graeco-Turkish war of 1807, brings in the ways and vanities of war correspondents and weaves a light plot whose ridiculous turns are made easily possible by the events and vicissitudes possible in war times. Mr. Hitchcock's are caused by the fact that he kindly volunteers to take the place of a noted war correspondent whose life has been "rather feverush."

Herbert Corthell, es Billy Ashe, manager for the Republio at Athens, supported Mr. Hitchcock admirably in the comedy scenes. Susie Forrester-Cawthorne was extremely amusing as Mrs.

Sybil Schwartze, a widow fat and

Clever Star, Whose Talented Work

Carries the Play at the Belasco.

wealthy. Georgie Lawrence, in the part of Blanche Bailey, vaudeville performer, carried things off with her usual breeziness and made a hit. Pauline Anthony, as Grace Whitney, the heroine, put up a pleasing performance. Edgar L. Davepert, who played the part of a "real newspaper man, not a journalist," ably seconded Mr. Hitchcock in the comedy work of the evening.

Others in the cast, who did good work, were Phillips Smalley, Alexander Kearney, and Herman Rupkie.

Robert B. Smith is credited with the



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